Volume 11, Edition 10 November 2007

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

Darrel Jones wins QRP building contest

Darrel Jones, WD6BOR, shown with his winning entry for the QRP building contest during the latest PACIFICON. The NORCAL QRP club supplied the kit and the idea was to build it in a unique enclosure. It was reported by Darrel that the crystals hanging from the lamp enhanced radio transmissions.

For his efforts, Darrel received a $50.00 gift certificate from Doug Hendricks kits. Take a look at his website, http://www.qrpkits.com/.

FROM THE TOP: Election Time. Meeting November 21 at SDC.

Nominations are still open for anyone interested in becoming a club officer. Elections will be held at the November meeting and the installation of officers will take place at the Christmas party. The club meeting will be November 21 at McDougal Hall on the Sonoma Development Center.

The Pacificon Amateur Radio Convention has come and gone. There were some

interesting talks and the QRP group had a lot going on. See the article in the newsletter about the great kit builders in the club.

It was decided at the last meeting to have the Christmas Party at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs on December 12. There will be more information and a sign up at the next meeting so that we can let Mary's know how many people to expect.

Don't let this great weather we are having fool you, winter is just around the corner. So, get those batteries charged up. Construction of the Sonoma Valley EOC is moving along and the article in the Press Democrat indicated that it should be completed in January or February.

Hope to hear you on the air and see you at the meeting in November.

ON CALL

by Ken McTaggart N6KM,
ACS Unit Leader

There are many sources of information and for training for EMCOMM. Here are some of them reprinted from the ARES E-letter for October 15, 2007:

General ARES information:
http://www.arrl.org/ares

EMCOMM Resources:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/emergency/

Public Service resources:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/pubservice.html

ARES E-Letter Archives:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/ares-el/
Public Relations:

http://www.emergency-radio.org/

Training:
ARRL training courses:
http://www.arrl.org/cce
Red Cross training courses:
http://www.redcross.org/flash/course01_v01/
FEMA training courses:
http://training.fema.gov/IS/
FEMA National Incident Management System:
http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/index.shtm

International:
IARU Emergency Communications:
http://www.iaru.org/emergency/

IARU Region 2 Emergency Communications:
http://www.iaru-r2emcor.net

Major Amateur Radio Emergency Communications Nets:
Hurricane Watch Net:
http://www.hwn.org/
Maritime Mobile Service Net:
http://www.mmsn.org/
Salvation Army (SATERN) Net:
http://www.satern.org
Waterway Net:
http://www.waterwayradio.net/
VoIP SKYWARN/Hurricane Net:
http://www.voipwx.net/

ARRL/Served Agency Memoranda of Understanding:
http://www.arrl.org/FandES/field/mou/
National Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster:
http://www.nvoad.org/
American Red Cross:
http://www.redcross.org/
National Weather Service:
http://www.nws.noaa.gov/
Department of Homeland Security - Citizen Corps, FEMA:
http://www.citizencorps.gov/,
http://www.dhs.gov/,
http://www.fema.gov/

Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials- International:
http://www.apcointl.org/
National Communications System:

http://www.ncs.gov/
National Association of Radio and

Telecommunications Engineers, Inc.:
http://www.narte.org/
Salvation Army:
http://www.salvationarmyusa.org/usn/www_usn.nsf
Society of Broadcast Engineers:
http://www.sbe.org/
Quarter Century Wireless Association, Inc.
http://www.QCWA.org/

Radio Emergency Associated Communication Teams:
http://www.reactintl.org/
SKYWARN:
http://www.skywarn.org/

VOMARC Minutes October 17, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:35PM. There were 19 in attendance.

Introductions were made and a new member, KI6LNK, Al, was welcomed.

Minutes of the August meeting were approved as published in the newsletter.

There was no meeting in September.

Treasurer's report: There is $1619.48 in the bank and all bills are paid. A register report was given to Dave, KD6FIL, President, for the club records. Our insurance is paid and dues are being received.

ACS report: There will be a hospital drill the morning of Thursday October 25, 2007. So far there has been no communications with the hospital regarding the drill. There is a new hospital coordinator and Jan, AE6FQ, will try to contact him Friday. Jan will get info to the ACS volunteers by next Tuesday. There was discussion regarding giving the hospital personnel feed back on how to better utilize the ACS members for communication and message handling so the drills will be more organized. The EOC will not be staffed for this drill as the duration of the drill does not warrant it.

(See Hospital Drill, page 4)

Please be sure you E-Mail and physical addresses are current and up to date.

Ken, N6Km, will be sending out new documents shortly (SOP< Roster, etc.). The new Fire Chief, Philip Garcia, is a ham, KF6FME, although he is not active. We will invite him to our meetings and activities.

Eagle Team report: Not much is going on a the moment. Things are still proceeding slowly.

VE report: There will be a VE Session December 1, 2007. Joel, NN6J, will be calling for volunteers to staff the session.

A net control operator is needed for December. Jim, K6UUW, volunteered. ACS net is covered.

The installation of officers and end of the year dinner will be held at 6PM, December 12, 2007, at Mary's Pizza in Boyes Hot Springs. Be sure to mark your calendars.

New Business:

Nomination of officers for 2008: The only nominations were for the incumbents.

Nominations will remain open until the November meeting at which time elections will be held.

There possibly will be a Baker to Vegas event next year in mid April. There will be more information coming as we find out more about the event and the participants.

Travel reports:

Ed Jacobson, W1EJ, was in Michigan and participated in the Straight Key Century Club event. he was only able to make one contact on 40m in New York.

Jim, K6UUW, traveled through Canada and had APRS coverage on 144.39 until his batteries for his radio died. He could not get the battery to recharge. He did participate in a net while in the Prince Edward Island area that included three provinces.

Dave, KD6FIL, was in Scotland and also tried APRS coverage. He heard several beacons but could not get his position to show up. While he heard many repeaters in southern Scotland, he found there were very few in northern Scotland.

Jim, K6UUW, showed the club a QRP rig he made that was mounted on a piece of wood. Doug Henderson of the QRP club will send parts for a QRP rig to anyone wanting to build and enter the QRP contest. The purpose of the contest is to see who can build the rig and get on the air the quickest. The rigs will be judged in various categories.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30PM

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Brady, W6WXU
Secretary

HOSPITAL DRILL, OCT 25, 2007

BY JAN BUSH AE6FQ

RESULTS: This drill worked very well. It was a major improvement over prior drills. There is a lot of interest by some of the hospital staff in what we do. They were interested in getting training to become Hams. I gave the contact to Jim Hill, VOMARC's Training coordinator.

I arranged to meet with Jackie (Hospital Drill Coordinator) early next year to go over the message handling process with the particular staff who will be handling the messages so we can be more efficient. She was very agreeable.

PROBLEMS: Hospital

1. There are questions on how to number the message forms. It is suggested that we review the message form processes and provide routine training and practice.

2. We need to communicate with the Valley EOC on a different frequency from the County EOC Drill frequency.

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 11 EDITION 10
A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF
Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL– President
Eileen Adams, KG6QNT
Vice-President/Membership Chair
Joan Brady, W6WXU – Secretary
Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Treasurer
Station Tustee for W6AJF
Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer
Ken McTaggart, N6KM – ACS Unit Leader
Jan Bush, AE6FQ – Webmeister
Joel Nadler, NN6J – VE Liaison
Jim Hill, K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator
Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Editor

Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC—S. Marler.

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at McDougal Hall at the Sonoma Developmental Center, Eldridge. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: http://www.vomarc.org/

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until the Sonoma Police station renovation is completed.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Issa's Restaurant, 18999 Sonoma Highway, Sonoma. The fun starts at 09:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:
Eileen@vom.com

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
32 Patten Street
Sonoma, CA 95476

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THE NEXT VOMARC MEETING IS ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, AT 7:30 P.M. AT MCDOUGAL HALL AT SONOMA DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER CU THERE!

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP

VOMARC 2007 Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org. QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address:_____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

Name: _____ CALL: _____ EMAIL: _____

VOMARC: $_____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen

Please check the mailing label on this newsletter. It tells you when your VOMARC dues are due. Dues may be mailed to Ken N6KM, 402 Fourth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. If there is any mistake, please do not shoot the messenger; email Eileen KG6QNT at Eileen@vom.com. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC**